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SIPDIS

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SENSITIVE

STATE FOR EUR/AGS - SAINT-ANDRE

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO AUSTRIA: COMMUNITY OF DEMOCRACIES
MINISTERIAL AT UNGA

REF: STATE 149622

¶1. (SBU) EconPolCouns delivered reftel demarche on September 12 to Peter Huber, the Austrian MFA's DAS-level deputy director for International Organizations.

¶2. (SBU) Huber said Austria had not yet determined whether a "political level" figure would represent Austria at the CD meeting. In any event, the Austrian Ambassador would likely attend.

¶3. (SBU) Huber noted that budget decisions were on hold pending the formation of a government after Austria's October 1 elections. He said it was difficult in any case for the Foreign Ministry to obtain funds for voluntary contributions to UN organizations because these normally required requests for additional funds from the Finance Ministry. However, he agreed that the UN Democracy Fund was a political priority for Austria, along with the Civil Emergency and Peacebuilding Funds.

McCaw